



**HAMRE, SCHUMANN,
MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.**
AN INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FIRM

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 14 2005

FAX TRANSMISSION December 14, 2005

TO: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.1576USWO

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter: 19

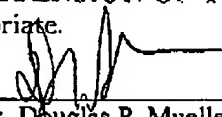
PTO FAX NUMBER: 571.273.8300

If all pages are NOT received, please call us at 612.455.3800 or fax us at 612.455.3801.

Title of Document: **Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 1 reference, copy of
Partial European Search Report, Translation of PCT/IPEA/409**

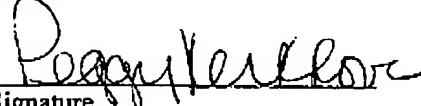
Applicant: OKAMOTO, et al.
Serial No.: 10/522,045
App. Filed: January 19, 2005
Group Art No.: 1645

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: 
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Peggy J. Kerkhove


Signature

December 13, 2005
Date

225 SOUTH SIXTH STREET • SUITE 2650 • MINNEAPOLIS • MN 55402
TEL 612.455.3800 • FAX 612.455.3801
WWW.HSML.COM • MAIL@HSML.COM

S/N 10/522,045

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICERECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 14 2005

Applicant: OKAMOTO, et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/522,045 Group Art Unit: 1645
Filed: January 19, 2005 Docket: 10873.1576USWO
Title: MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTION METHOD,
AND MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTING
IMPLEMENT USED FOR THE METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 14, 2005.

By: 

Name: Peggy Kakhove

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in a Partial European Search Report mailed November 15, 2005. A copy is enclosed.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each foreign document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. Patent Documents are not included.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do

not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

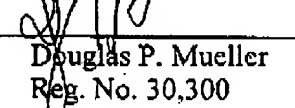
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
LARSON, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902-0902
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 455-3800

Dated: December 14, 2005

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/pjk



Date Mailed: December 14, 2005

Sheet 1 of 1

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.1576USWO	Application Number: 10/522,045
	Applicant: OKAMOTO, et al.	
	Filing Date: January 19, 2005	Group Art Unit: 1645

[illegible]

52835

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

*Substitute Disclosure Statement Form (PTO-1449)

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE